

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-9. (**Cancelled**)

10. (**Previously Presented**) A composition comprising a standard degradation product for analysis of a sample containing (5Z,7E)-(1R,2R,3R)-2-(3-hydroxypropoxy)-9,10-secocholesta-5,7,10(19)-triene-1,3,25-triol, said composition containing as the standard degradation product (5E,7E)-(1R,2R,3R)-2-(3-hydroxypropoxy)-9,10-secocholesta-5,7,10(19)-triene-1,3,25-triol.

Claim 11. (**Cancelled**)

12. (**Currently Amended**) A method of suppressing the ~~generation~~ formation of a degradation product in an oily preparation comprising (5Z,7E)-(1R,2R,3R)-2-(3-hydroxypropoxy)-9,10- secocholesta-5,7,10(19)-triene-1,3,25-triol, comprising adding dl- α -tocopherol to the preparation, wherein the degradation product is (5E,7E)-(1R,2R,3R)-2-(3-hydroxypropoxy)-9,10-secocholesta-5,7,10(19)-triene-1,3,25-triol.

13. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 12, wherein the amount of (5E,7E)-(1R,2R,3R)-2-(3-hydroxypropoxy)-9,10-secocholesta-5,7,10(19)-triene-1,3,25-triol ~~generated~~produced in the preparation after 12-month storage at room temperature under shading is suppressed to 1% or less.

14. **(Previously Presented)** The compound according to Claim 10, which is used as a standard of a degradation product in analysis of a preparation comprising (5Z,7E)-(1R,2R,3R)-2-(3-hydroxypropoxy)-9,10-secocholesta-5,7,10(19)-triene-1,3,25-triol.

Claims 15 and 16. **(Cancelled)**

17. **(Previously Presented)** A compound of (5E,7E)-(1R,2R,3R)-2-(3-hydroxypropoxy)-9,10-secocholesta-5,7,10(19)-triene-1,3,25-triol, for synthesizing vitamin D compounds.

18. **(Previously Presented)** In a method for synthesizing a vitamin D compound comprising reacting an intermediate compound,
the improvement wherein the intermediate compound is (5E,7E)-(1R,2R,3R)-2-(3-hydroxypropoxy)-9,10-secocholesta-5,7,10(19)-triene-1,3,25-triol.

19. **(New)** A composition comprising a standard degradation product for analysis of a sample containing (5Z,7E)-(1R,2R,3R)-2-(3-hydroxypropoxy)-9,10-secocholesta-5,7,10(19)-triene-1,3,25-triol, said composition consisting of, as a standard degradation product, (5E,7E)-(1R,2R,3R)-2-(3-hydroxypropoxy)-9,10-secocholesta-5,7,10(19)-triene-1,3,25-triol.